

obtain quality legal services. With the help of Richard's efforts, more people, regardless of their income status, will have access to quality attorneys.

Mr. Speaker, Richard Jones Jr. has dedicated his time to improving the community as a member of law enforcement and a civic leader. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 13, 2004*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4766) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes:

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, today I rise on behalf of the hard-working farm families of Southwest Georgia who have more than earned the economic assistance that a tobacco buy-out would provide.

By introducing this amendment, my colleagues seek to make a statement about the tobacco industry as a whole. In reality they are punishing American farmers who have already suffered the loss of more than fifty percent of their income. A tobacco buyout does not provide an incentive to grow tobacco nor does it get the U.S. Government out of the tobacco growing industry, rather it provides our farmers with an honest chance to survive.

Those of us representing American tobacco growers are in the best position to understand the unique importance of tobacco reform. We have been working on a bipartisan basis for over two years to end the depression-era price support system that, despite severe cuts in quotas and the even greater economic losses of our farm families, has not been touched in nearly 18 years. This amendment obstructs our reform efforts and complicates the chances of any real solution. Our farmers deserve better.

I urge my colleagues not to support this amendment.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN C. WHITEHEAD

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 14, 2004*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of John C. Whitehead for his continued dedication to public service.

John was born in East New York and raised in Bedford Stuyvesant by his loving parents, Jesse and Mary. The ninth of twelve children, he was educated in the New York public school system.

John previously served his country proudly as a member of the United States Army and Reserves.

He has vast experience with many civic groups and community-based organizations. John is a founding member of the youth organization Black Men Who Care. He is the Chief Executive Officer and an Executive Board Member. He is a member of the Men's Caucus for Congressman Ed TOWNS where he is a Congressional diplomat and Chairman of this year's awards dinner. John is also an executive board member of Community Board No. 5 which serves East New York.

John is deeply involved with a number of community organizations. He is an Advisory Board Member of NIA Theatrical Production Company and New York City Works, a Special Advisor to the Committee To Honor Black Heroes, and a member of Black Watch. John has served as a supervisor and youth counselor for the Vanguard Urban Improvement Association, which was founded by Albert Vann (City Councilman and Former Assemblyman), and is the former vice-president of the Spring Creek Tenants Association.

John is currently employed by the New York City Department of Sanitation as well as being a licensed paralegal. He has served as Vice-President of the United States Steel Workers Local No. 2, and has worked as a security supervisor for Burns Security.

John is a single parent of six wonderful children: John Jr., Jeffrey, Jatina, Dakeem, Jay and Justin. By his example of community service, love of neighbor and a strong work ethic, he strives to teach his children that they can be successful in any endeavor they undertake. John's greatest focus and concern is to be the voice for those hard-working taxpayers who are not being heard. They need and deserve someone to ensure the delivery of quality services to their community.

Mr. Speaker, John C. Whitehead has continued to strengthen and improve the community through his wide array of civic activities. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today, and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

IN HONOR OF VIRGIL BLANCO

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 14, 2004*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Virgil Blanco on being selected as a Fulbright Scholar for 2004. For his remarkable achievement, Mr. Blanco was honored by the Board of Chosen Freeholders on Thursday, May 20, 2004, at Middlesex County Administration Building in New Brunswick, NJ.

Mr. Blanco, a professor of modern languages and department chairman and director of the Center for International Education at Middlesex County Community College, has been selected as a 2004 Fulbright Scholar Program recipient. The Fulbright Scholar Program is an honor bestowed upon only 800 American faculty and professionals, by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs in the U.S. Department of State. Mr. Blanco recently spent 3 weeks visiting French and German post-secondary educational institutions, learn-

ing in-depth their educational system. He also lectured about community colleges and immigrant students in the United States.

Mr. Blanco has been an active member in his community. He was founder and chairman of the New Jersey Collegiate Consortium for International Education, and also served as chairman of the New Jersey World Trade Association, co-chairman of the New Jersey World Trade Conference, and member of the State Advisory Committee on Bilingual Education.

For his outstanding research and dedicated community service, Mr. Blanco has been the recipient of numerous awards and grants, such as the N.J. World Trade Council Education Award, the Above and Beyond Award for Teaching Excellence, and the N.J. Department of Labor and Industry Research Grant.

Mr. Blanco received his bachelor's degree from the University of Miami, a master's degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University, and his post-doctorate degree from the University of Madrid.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Virgil Blanco for his continued pursuit of educational excellence, and for his dedicated service to the students of Middlesex County Community College.

A TRIBUTE TO CONSTANTINE LINCOLN STEWART

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 14, 2004*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Constantine Lincoln Stewart for his public service for the City of New York and his volunteer efforts to educate our children.

Lincoln, as he is more affectionately known, currently serves as a senior policy advisor in the Office of Policy Management with the New York City Comptroller's Office. As a Senior Policy Advisor, he conducts research and analyzes public policy issues affecting education, the infrastructure, public safety, and technology. He has worked in the Comptroller's Office for the last 17 years.

Lincoln is also an adjunct professor at York College in Jamaica, New York. He tutors students of all ages throughout the city. He enjoys the opportunity to be a positive influence on young people. Lincoln especially likes working with students in the areas of math and science. These areas are traditionally viewed as problematic for women and people of color. Lincoln emphasizes that it is the student's duty to take responsibility for his or her own education. He often tells his students that the international community is providing opportunities for ambitious African-American, Latino, female and immigrant youths.

Lincoln was born in Jamaica. He is the second of Samuel and Lethe's five children. He received his degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of the West Indies. After graduating, he immigrated to Brooklyn in 1980. He quickly resettled in West Texas after accepting an offer as a chemical engineer with the Phillips Petroleum Company. Two years later, he returned to Brooklyn and attended Baruch College where he earned his Masters of Business Administration.

Lincoln is the loving husband of Charmanie Harris Stewart, his wife, partner, and friend for